THE INNIS HERALD

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COURTESY OF JAMES CHAPMAN

Urban Upheaval

Highly anticipated municipal election days away

Daria Mancino

TORONTO ELECTION

Cut from an intended 47 wards to just 25, this Monday's municipal election will look markedly different than elections past. Many incumbent councillors, who usually see a 90% re-election rate, have been forced to run against each other and win the support of new constituents. The mayoral race, while technically having over thirty candidates, has amounted to a small, anticlimactic race between incumbent John Tory and former Chief Planner Jennifer Keesmaat.

Overshadowing the entirety of the election is Bill 5, also known as the Better Local Government Act, which Premier Doug Ford introduced in July to reduce the size of city council by almost half.

This decision turned the city on its head and has fundamentally altered the nature of Toronto's democracy. It has left many Torontonians wondering how the Premier was able to make such a drastic decision unilaterally.

The fact is that very few cities are in a position to have this kind of decision imposed on their own affairs. Canadian cities are frequently referred to as "creatures of the province" for the very reason that they are subject to the whims of their provincial governments. The introduction of Bill 5 has highlighted this very nature of the relationship between cities and their governments in Canada, which has been as criticized as the Conservative government itself. Some Torontonians, and even mayoral candidate Jennifer Keesmaat, brought up the topic of secession: the process by which Toronto would make itself independent from Ontario and take control of its own affairs. Keesmaat later retracted this sentiment as the possibility of secession is slim to zero. That said, other Canadian cities have managed to secure more autonomy than Toronto currently possesses.

So, is there a way for Toronto to secure more autonomy from the province? And how do other cities, both in Canada and beyond, exercise and secure autonomy over their own affairs? This article is meant to explain how the legal standing of the City of Toronto allowed Doug Ford to do what he did, and to examine the ways in which other cities manage their own affairs.

Just in time for the election, here's a recap of all the decisions and battles that enabled the 25 ward election to take place.

Bill 5: Justifications and Reactions

Premier Ford announced that his government would introduced legislation to reduce the size of city council by half on July 27, just hours before the registration deadline for candidates and less than three months before the election itself. Ford criticized the council as dysfunctional and slow-moving, insisting that a reduced number of councillors would expedite action on pressing issues in the city. This announcement was followed by the introduction of Bill 5, the Better Local Government Act, on July 30th. The Bill reduced the number of councillors by redrawing the wards to match the federal and provincial ridings, leaving the council 43 percent smaller than it sits now. In addition to reducing Toronto's city council, the Bill also cancelled regional chair elections in Peel, York, Niagara, and Muskoka. The Bill was sped through parliament and passed on August 14th.

Under the 44 ward system which Toronto previously operated under, each councillor represented approximately 63,000 Torontonians. The

Continued on page 10.

Maybe international students do want to get involved?

Louisa You

INNIS LIFE

As the school year gears up for midterms, many of us have begun to focus more on our readings and labs, rather than our student government elections and applications. However, for two Innis student organizations – the Innis Residence Council (IRC) and the Innis College Student Society (ICSS) – this year's application and election processes were extraordinary. Not only was there outstanding engagement from students with both bodies, but this year also marked the introduction of new positions: six IRC International Junior House Representatives, and an ICSS International Representative. Given the amount of candidates for each position, incoming students might be surprised to hear that these positions are new to the college. In past years, the IRC only had 6 general Junior House Representative positions, and the ICSS was devoid of an international portfolio altogether.

The Herald spoke to two student leaders who were instrumental in these new legislations to hear their opinions about the importance of international student representation, and what these positions mean for Innis student governance going forward. Daniel Li is the current IRC President and has been involved in the IRC since his first year as a Junior House Representative himself. Sarah Chocano served as one of the ICSS Equity and Outreach directors and an IRC Senior House Representative last year, and is now the ICSS Executive Vice-President. These third year students fought hard for this legislation to be put to a vote by the general student body.

Innis Herald: Why was it so important to you to have these international student representative positions in the IRC and ICSS?

Sarah Chocano: "For me in my first year, I didn't apply to anything because I thought I was going to have to compete with Canadian students. I thought 'I'm not going to win or get a Junior House Rep. position because Canadian students are obviously going to be better than me in some way' and that got me really nervous. So I was thinking about this year, there are so many people applying for international positions, and you see that word and you think, 'Oh, this is catered towards me'. And we as council are not dictating, 'You have to pay international fees to be an international student'. It's how you identify and how you see yourself as a person and as a student in the University of Toronto."

Daniel Li: "As student governments especially, I believe that we have a responsibility to our constituents to try to be as representative as possible. In order for us to effectively spend the money that we get from student fees, we need to be able to hear from all the perspectives of the residents at our council. Of course, we can't get 330 students at every single council meeting, which is why we have representation. By having representation available for international students, we're opening up doors and we're breaking down barriers that international students may face when they come to a new residence, a new university and a new country. We're creating the opportunity for all students to express concerns or ideas."

Continued on page 4.

THE
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We are committed to covering stories that matter to students. Our content aims to help students connect to their college, campus, city, and world.

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Getting involved at Innis

COURTESY OF ICSS ATHLETICS

The Innis College Intramural Hockey Team is one of dozens of intramural sports offered through the ICSS Athletics Portfolio.

COURTESY OF CHIAO SUN

The Innis College Choir is an ICSS club which rehearses every Monday from 6-8pm in the residence.

Emma Paulus

INNIS LIFE

There are many ways in which you can get involved at Innis: from groups such as the ICSS (Innis College Student Society), the ICC (Innis College Council), and the IRC (Innis Residence Council), to clubs like the Innis Choir and the Innis Herald, to various intramural sports teams. Getting involved can be intimidating, especially if you don't know what to expect—that's why I interviewed some upper year students on their experience with getting involved at Innis and asked them for advice on how to do so. These students are:

Lucas Granger (3rd year), who has been involved with the IRC as a Senior House Representative, the ICC as a student representative, and the UTSU (University of Toronto Student Union) as the Innis College Director.

Victoria Hue (5th year), who has helped run the Innis College Choir for many years, both as the Assistant Director and as Director. Last year, she was the Vice President of the IRC. She has also been involved with intramurals, playing on the Innis Women's Intramurals Basketball Team.

Andrew Zhao (3rd year), who is currently the Vice President of the IRC, and has been a Junior House Representative and the Treasurer for the IRC in the past. He was also on the ICSS last year as one of the Equity and Outreach Directors.

In what ways is getting involved within the college beneficial, specifically in leadership roles?

Lucas: Getting involved at Innis is super easy and very rewarding. At Innis, we have a lot of involvement positions. Having these leadership roles allows you to advocate and organize for things you care about, whether that is mental health and wellness, or advocating on behalf of commuters—it puts your voice out there where people can listen. Being involved also helps foster a sense of community within Innis and builds great friendships inside and outside of the college.

Victoria: I believe that learning about how you lead is such an important thing that everyone needs to explore for themselves, and Innis College is a great place to get started. Innis has its own unique culture where there's so much interest and enthusiasm around student initiatives. As you get involved in clubs at Innis, you're going to meet amazing friends to share your interests and growing experiences with, and the things you learn about your own unique leadership style are going to stay with you in all types of situations.

Andrew: I think student government has an important role to play in advocating for students. The university is a big bureaucracy, and often student interests can get lost. Student government's job is to remind the university of who they work for. If nothing else, getting involved is still a great way to meet people and make lasting friendships.

Do you have any advice to those who are shy, introverted, or nervous about getting involved?

Lucas: Try anyways! Across all student leadership you will find those who say that they waited too long or that they thought they weren't outgoing enough to be involved. Being involved doesn't mean that you have to be a completely public face or rise up the ladders of student government—it means that you can work on portfolios that you care about. If you are worried that it might be too much commitment—feel free to ask questions, our goal isn't to discourage people from trying, but instead to support those who want to.

Victoria: I am also someone who was shy and nervous about getting involved. I think it's normal to be a little afraid of putting yourself in a new environment. I would highly suggest starting by joining a group that does something you know you enjoy. At Innis there are many clubs supporting different interests: arts, music, sports, environmental causes, health, fitness, mentorship, gaming, just to name a few—so there's really something for everyone. Even if there isn't, start a new initiative, Innis is very open about supporting this! Try, and chances are, you'll surprise yourself.

Andrew: The easiest way to get involved is to reach out to someone who already is involved. It doesn't matter if they're a complete stranger! Especially at Innis, student leaders want to bring as many people as possible into the fold. Shoot us a message (or an email, if you're feeling bold!). We want to get you involved, just ask us how!

There are many benefits to getting involved, especially at Innis, where there are so many great opportunities to do so! If you're nervous about joining in on activities, remember that if you need it, there are many people here at Innis who would love to help you become more comfortable getting involved!

How to U of T

How to not let school take over your life

COURTESY OF NANCY ZHAO

Prioritizing your workload and taking scheduled breaks can help reduce the stress of university life, writes Sabrina Daniele in her column How to U of T.

Sabrina Daniele

STUDENT LIFE

Anyone who studies at U of T knows that the struggle is real when it comes to maintaining a social life and managing school work. What students like myself tend to forget is the importance of balance. Now, I am not here to sounds like your parents and professors, but maybe they're onto something.

In light of this, I have investigated this theory and found that many student life websites repeat the same generic things—they all regurgitate the importance of achieving and becoming the "perfect" student. As you scroll down every site, you continuously see the same superficial attributes: use an agenda, set goals, get your beauty sleep, eat healthy to avoid getting sick, and prioritize your time wisely. This sounds all too familiar.

We students need something more concrete. We need words of wisdom that are actually helpful and will allow us to find the time to balance work and pleasure.

Having a balanced lifestyle is challenging. So here I am! Reflecting on myself, I have come up with key concepts to keep in mind, which can allow you to achieve a work-life balance too.

How I find balance is simple:

What you should first learn is the practice of patience. Now, I always try my best to remain calm when school begins to stress me out, but we all know that sometimes, that isn't possible. That is why I always resort to certain tasks, which I have learned work best for me. I release my oxytocin from two things: repeating Beyoncé on my playlist, or jogging around the neighborhood with my pug. But if you don't have a dog or your don't like my favorite artist, I assure you that once you start small by finding easy everyday methods that can lead you to spend hours on, you can then break down time for balance.

Once you have established this, you can continue to focus on identifying the right moment for a break.

But before pleasure, I first get my homework organized. This is my main priority.

How so? Well, I make a list of every assignment that is due. I then list them by what is due first, and is most important. That is what I begin to work on: the non-demanding tasks at hand can wait until a later date. This is because as important as school is, you need to find your inner zen. Personal care is like taking care of your health: when you're sick, you take care of your body first then everything else falls into place.

So, what I mean by balance is prioritization. This means I focus on the content, time, and importance of the workload. Don't get confused here: every assignment is important because they are all relevant to our academic careers. But to determine where to start, I work my way down from the most to least demanding. Somewhere in the middle, I find time for myself. How? Well, let me explain.

You need to acknowledge how much time will be dedicated to your studies. It should be obvious to dedicate more time to your homework than your own leisure time, but how long is too long? I am not going to go through all the "scientists have shown" theories, but you need to look at 8 hours in a day. I prioritize the majority of my hours for homework, and two to three hours to myself. This applies to both weekends and weekdays.

At this point, I now have you thinking, "How do you know when to take a break?"

Most importantly, you need to know your body. Once you know your body, you can detect its warning signs when to take a break. I say this because my body warns me when I have overworked myself—I feel not only physically but also emotionally drained. This is when I know I need to stop what I am doing, and relax.

Everyone hates being stressed. To avoid this, I take a break and recollect my thoughts. I do so by keeping my mind occupied on enjoyable tasks in order to remain in a positive place.

During these two to three hours for myself, I do many things that take my mind off schoolwork. I practice self-care. Although this may sound broad, I have narrowed down two options: I devote my free time to school clubs, or to fun leisure activities.

Since I have a couple of hours to myself, I spend more time on school activities. I believe getting involved in our school community is important for personal growth. This is a non-stressful approach for interacting with peers, classmates, and new friends. And just maybe, if you really get to know new peers, you can spend even more of your free time with them. Speaking on a personal level, whatever time I have left I spend it on playing with my pug or literally just taking a nap.

Since I established the importance of all this, my university life has been more enjoyable. I finally have time for what is most important in my life: spending those long nights dedicating myself to read 1000 pages, while also finding time to go for a night out with friends in the 6ix. Shouldn't life be about having the best of both worlds? I would think so.

You too can take my approach, so you also can balance schoolwork with pleasure. School should not take over anyone's life. Don't let it take over yours.

Life is too short: get outside, go meet up with friends, or just eat a sandwich. Whatever that may be, leisure time will calm down any anxiety or stress you have toward school.

This will allow any U of T student to have a better university experience.

How To U of T *is a column of* The Innis Herald*, dedicated to sharing tips for success for upper-year Innis Students.*

International students, *continued from page 1*

When Innis College was founded in 1964, the college did not collect information about whether students were strictly international or domestic. In 1965, the two years of students combined reported a total class of 400 with 321 from Toronto and 79 from "out of town", which included students from elsewhere in Canada. Now, nearly half of incoming students are international, although there can be different ways of making this distinction. According to the registrar's office, the current student body breakdown is 35% international students and 65% domestic students when we look at how students pay fees. When we break down the 65% of domestic students, 13% are permanent residents and 52% are Canadian citizens.

It follows to question why it took so long to establish these international student positions when Innis is known for being committed to representing student voices. In fact, the debate to include the International Junior House Representatives proposition as an IRC constitutional amendment was extremely contentious last year. When this motion, introduced by Andrew Zhao (current IRC Vice President), was read out at last year's IRC constitutional meeting, many concerns were brought up: Why do we need 6 new positions? Wouldn't just one be enough? Wouldn't council be too big? Is there even enough work for 6 new representatives to do? How would we allocate projects? Is this tokenism? What if we don't get enough applications? What if international students just don't want to get involved?

DL: "In terms of international students not applying, that has turned out to be completely false. I believe we had more than 2 applications for each house; meaning that at least 12 individuals who identified as international students applied for international student positions. The entire idea that international students don't want to be engaged or be involved is an aging mindset. It's a mindset, I want to say, that was developed at a time when there wasn't international student positions available."

The ICSS process, however, was different. When Sarah proposed the motion, she was met with very little resistance within the council. However, because she saw that people outside council may not be supportive, she decided to start by proposing just one director for the International Portfolio position as a first step.

SC: "We (international students) do get involved in other organizations but we don't get involved within Innis because there's no position for us within Innis... That fear factor of: 'I'm not going to win, they're not going to prefer me over the people that they have so I'm not going to get involved, I might as well not do it.' So I think that that was the mentality in my first year... From the ICSS I saw a lot of people trying to change that and trying to change that idea... trying to make it more about the council and how we can make international students more involved. I proposed this idea to the executive of 2017-2018 and they were really supportive with it. When I proposed it to the council - no one debated it, no one doubted it. Everyone was, like, 'Okay, let's do this.' That was the mentality in the ICSS."

So where do we go from here? In conversation about the future of student government representation, Daniel hopes that the IRC can one day dissolve the labels of international and domestic student representation. These international representatives on the IRC were meant to give international students an opportunity and to encourage them to apply. Daniel hopes that one day the disparity in representation in Innis student organizations would cease to exist and international tudents would not be afraid to apply for the general positions. "Ideally I wouldn't want International Junior House Reps. Hopefully in 5 years I would want no distinction between the house reps because ideally we wouldn't need to have these positions to get international students involved. Ideally we would get a council that's already representative and there would be enough international students involved that incoming students wouldn't require a separate position as a springboard."

COURTESY OF STELLA ZHANG

Tony Niu is the first ever International Student Representative on the ICSS. Elected during the council's fall by-election last month, Tony was previously the Orientation Week Media Director and is currently an employee of the college's IT Help Desk.

The ICSS operates a little differently: instead of generic first year representative positions, the ICSS has specific first year positions for residents and commuters so a possible idea is to create a first year position for international students. Sarah hopes now to establish the international portfolio. "Associates work really well because you can hire as many as you need... the constitution doesn't put a limit on associates. It can be 6 associates if you want. They not only help out directors but also allow for students, especially 1st year students, to get a taste of council and see if they want to apply next year... I did get some questions from students, 'I want to apply for International Student Representative but I am a first year. Do I just put international?' They asked about it, so there's a lot of interest."

We also asked Daniel and Sarah for their perspectives about the most effective way to connect with international students. These two student leaders are from very different backgrounds but have come together to both fight for representation on their respective councils. Daniel is from the small town of Hastings, Ontario and Sarah came to study at the University of Toronto from Cajamarca, Peru.

DL: "I think for starters, we need to treat everybody as equals and not make broad assumptions. I think you also have to take a very relative view when looking at cultures and you have to be accepting of different cultures. Like for me, I've experienced more than just whatever Canadian culture is; I've also experienced the culture that my family is from. So I try to understand that other cultures are equally as valid and that other cultures have equally as valid traditions. By having that open mind, it's easier to connect to international students. I may not speak a different language, I may not understand everybody's traditions, but I can understand when certain voices that I want to hear aren't being heard. There's no formula – it really is as easy as having an open mind."

SC: "I don't like labels in normal human interactions. Labels can be weird... When you're talking to people, when you're in a house meeting, when you're in orientation, you're not thinking about, 'You're international'. There are different experiences, different ways of speaking English. For me, a lot of people say, 'Your English is really fluent! How long have you been living here?' I just came here for university but it was because I had an international education in Peru. There are other people who come here and lived here for a long time and have a different accent. There's no stereotype of the international student. There are different people that think of themselves as international students. That experience shapes how you identify."

Lastly, the Innis Herald also spoke to Tony Niu, the second year student that has just been elected for ICSS International Representative. Enthusiastically, he told us: "Having initiated this brand new position at the ICSS shows how much the ICSS cares about the international student population and being elected by the students last year showed how much the student body wants a bridge to connect between the Innis College and the international student body. Even without the specific international position, I would've still applied for an ICSS position because I really want to be involved in the Innis College community. As for my plans for the year, I would not only focus on student involvement in the community but also focus on students' transitions and their mental health!"

So as we go forward in the school year with our studies and bury our heads in getting involved, keep an eye out for these new positions and what these students will be coming up with. And if anyone is still doubting the need and success of these positions, consider this: maybe international students do want to be involved at Innis after all.

Comments have been lightly edited for clarity.

The importance of constitutional revision in student government

Ashlee Redmond

OP-ED

Having served as an executive member of the Innis College Student Society (ICSS), a student governing body, I can attest to the cross-campus struggle and debate over how to increase student participation in college governance and campus politics. Voter turnouts that reflect a mere fraction of the population are a reality at several colleges—Innis College included. While each position on the ICSS was successfully filled in the September by-election, only 4 students—including myself—were elected to sit on Innis College Council (ICC): an elected body that proudly claims to be "the first and only governing body at the University of Toronto with parity (that is equal student to admin) representation".

The ICSS can be thought of as the body of student leaders governing over student life, including but not limited to intramural organization, social event planning, and community outreach opportunities; the ICC can be thought of as the governing body that make decisions about how the college itself operates, including alumni networking, decisions around which courses are offered through Innis College, scholarship distribution, and more recently, the discussion about the Innis College renovation plan. The decisions that come out of ICC meetings have the potential to affect Innis College students for generations to come and having assertive student voices at that table is incredibly valuable. I consider myself very fortunate to have been elected onto ICC in order to provide that voice on behalf of the students of Innis College; however, my election did not come without some contention.

The remnants of online campaign materials almost cost me my disqualification in the past by-election; instead, however, I was on the receiving end of 2 demerit points. While Section 10.5 of the ICSS constitution specifies that "campaign posters [...] may not be posted within eyesight of the polling station on election day" and Section 10.6 makes note of the use of "electronic posters and social media posts," nothing in the constitution or the "Election Package" distributed to candidates who successfully secured nomination, states the need to erase all evidence of online campaigning. A quick search on Facebook of past events reveals several ICC and ICSS candidates whose campaign events are still publicly accessible but went on to serve their terms without threat of disqualification.

As a former executive of the ICSS myself, I see this lack of clarification as an oversight of my term. However, I think it is important to remember that the constitution and other materials are there as a sort of roadmap to aid students in navigating leadership roles. As modes of participation change and develop, so too should the documents that students look to for guidance. In an election cycle in which the candidate who received the most votes (123) only reflects approximately 4% of the college population, and in which 9 student seats on a council dependent upon parity representation remain empty, I would encourage the practice of yearly constitution revision. These documents were not created with the intention of barring students from positions of leadership; they are meant to provide a framework through which student governance can be understood and carried out.

The former Executive-Vice President of the ICSS, Ashlee Redmond is currently a fourth year student serving on the ICC.

An Innocuous, Inoffensive, Totally Respectful and Reverent, Albeit Tongue-in-Cheek School Song for INNIS COLLEGE

AN INNOCUOUS, INOFFENSIVE, TOTALLY RESPECTFUL AND REVERENT, ALBEIT TONGUE-IN-CHEEK SCHOOL SONG FOR

INNIS COLLEGE

Who the hell was Harold Innis,
Will someone tell me who the hell was he?
We'll cheer his name with all that's in us
If you only will reveal his identity.
But don't say that he's a politician
Or that he'll reach the sainthood any day,
But if he lectured students, we'll forgive him this imprudence
And cheer and sing his praises anyway.

CHORUS: Glory, glory Harold Innis
We'll cheer his name with all that's in us
If you aren't with us you're agin' us
For we're people that you don't meet every day.

Did he invent a better mousetrap,
Or did he discover something new?
We'll gladly follow in his footsteps
If you only will inform us as to what size shoe.
He's famed in academic circles,
But you can't get in without a Ph. D.
We'll follow his example, if you'll just give us a sample,
Oh, Harold Innis, who the hell was he?

CHORUS

"New" is a name for a detergent,
Not a college full of academic stuff
And "Erindale" says nothing urgent
While "Scarborough's" a good name for a bluff.
"Victoria" was fine as Queen of England
But as a college she looks rather odd
And "U.C." so prosaic, for a place that's so mosaic
And "Trinity" is only named for God. So------

CHORUS

CHEER AFTER LAST CHORUS:

H-A-R-O-L-D I-N-N-I-S
Innis, Innis,
WHO ?!

A copy of Bob's famous song and rejected anthem of the ICSS.

Louisa You

INNIS THROWBACK

Innis started out as a college of solely undergraduate students at a tiny little building not far its current location. Along came Bob Bossin, enrolling in 1965, just a year after Innis's founding, and submitted this song as a pitch to be Innis College's official song.

Nowadays, Bossin is known as a musician and activist. He co-founded the Canadian folk group, Stringband, and still works as an activist. Look up his recently uploaded song protesting the Kinder Morgan Pipeline expansion, "We Don't Want Your Pipeline" on Youtube!.

Even in his school days, Bob stood out musically and academically. He played for the Engineering Skule Band, known as the Lady Godiva Memorial Bnad [sic] (it was spelled correctly when it was originally founded, but not for long). The band is known for its open admission policy and now plays with a working cannon, Ye Olde Mighty Skule Cannon. When Bob graduated in 1968, he was awarded the prestigious John H. Moss Scholarship, which recognizes students who have shown outstanding academic and extra-curricular leadership during their undergraduate careers.

In 2014, Bob came back to Innis to do a one-man performance show. Earlier this year for the 50th anniversary reunion of his graduating class, he even sung a few lines of this very song.

In the October 1966 edition of the Innis Herald, the ICSS commented on the back page, "Bob Bossin, take note, the "Innis Who" school song was rejected by the Executive as an officially recognized anthem."

The Innis Throwback *is a regular column of the Innis Herald, highlighting memorable articles from our earlier editions and the college's colourful past.*

In defence of the humble brag

Herald Contributor
CREATIVE

Disclaimer: this humble writer's humble defence is entirely the product of her vivid, endless and profound imagination to which she does you the honor of sharing. All with humble intent. Proceed with handfuls of salt.

Let me begin by saying this: the art of the humble brag is nothing special. It is not something to write home about, like the loud-mouthed life of the party. Nor is it something passed by, easily dismissed like the unappreciated wallflower.

Instead, the humble brag—the truly remarkable humble brag—is as such because it needs no introduction to fellow party-goers, but the party isn't really alive without it either. If I had to compare, I'd say that the humble brag is like air.

"Air?" You say, "How on earth can it be like air?" And I tell you that the humble brag is indeed like air, because it is crucial to the everyday yet so easily overlooked, until one day it's no longer there.

The humble brag is nothing to write home about, for who would care to write or read about air?

Truly though, the humble brag can't be done without. Its spontaneously planned interjections of, "Oh, I've been there. A beautiful view from the hot air balloon," are neatly followed by the genuine modesty of the every humble bragger: "Oh dear, didn't I tell you? Oh, if you insist, I'll tell you. It was nothing so special, mind," and so on and so forth. The effortless effort to bring the conversation back to something that makes everyone sigh in awe and wonder is one of the truest skills of the humble brag.

Truly breathtaking in its truly understated worth.

The humble brag, too, is one of the kindest souls around.

Returning to the conversation that it has taken over at the insistent requests of those listening, the modest story of the hot air balloon would conclude with a slight laugh and wave of the hand, "Oh, no, no. I haven't really been to all that many places. Only a few here and there." The humble brag has, of course, been to that many places, but out of the kindness of its heart, has refrained from saying so. After all, who would want to listen to such arrogant boasting?

So as to not take the attention away from the life of the party, the humble brag graciously tells a small white lie. It doesn't want to steal the whole spotlight, really—maybe just the limelight.

Isn't the humble brag just the most thoughtful person out there?

But parties aren't your style? Well, why didn't you say sooner? The humble brag is as diverse as it is attentive to all your needs. Whether you're meeting professors, potential employers, industry specialists, or even your partner's best friend and parents, dressing to impress doesn't stop at your clothing choices. It also extends to your language and repertoire of discerning and witty responses. Toeing the line between dry and overeager, the humble brag converses to praise the other party while showing off its own acumen.

To professors, humble will laud research, lecture content and the professor's perspectives. Its questions will link directly to its praises and ask for clarification or challenge other views. All this to impress for better grades, reference letters and a brownie point or two. Likewise, interview questions aside, at job screenings and networking events, the humble goes through similar motions until they find the perfect moment to say: "Absolutely. I really love the direction that ABC corporation is taking. Actually, I'm quite familiar with such a goal. When I worked with so and so in such and such role for however many days, months, years, I contributed this and that, which really accelerated progress on their XYZ project. Very similar to what you're trying to achieve here." Such a straightforward deliverance of such tasks that flows seamlessly into the conversation.

Timing is, of course, everything.

If you're meeting your significant other's other special people for the first time – parents, siblings, pets, what have you – espousing your excellent skills by reminiscing about that time you lowkey Facebook stalked your partner to find out which mutual friend could be your wingman isn't really the way to go. These casual scenes require more tact and a much finer balance between the humble and the brag. Accept praise for giving them truthful answers that they want to hear, but only with sufficient modesty and subtle redirection to your partner's own achievements. After all, where would they be without you?

I see the hesitation in your eyes as you dismiss the startling power of the humble brag, dear reader. But I digress. The humble brag has kept your attention long enough.

Just remember, dear reader, the air that we breathe is just as easily dismissed and only marginally more important than the humble brag.

INNIS INTRAMURALS

The ICSS Athletics portfolio supports over a dozen intramural teams. If you're interested in getting involed, contact: athletics.icss@gmail.com

Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee

Sept. 22	Innis	**16** - 4	Munk	
Sept. 29	Innis	**W** -	?	Forfeit (Unknown)

Men's Ice Hockey

Oct. 11	Innis	**W** -	Forfeit (KPE)	

Co-ed Basketball

Oct. 2	Innis	36 - **40**	Pharmacy	
Oct. 9	Innis	30 - **34**	UC	

Co-ed Touch Football

Oct. 14	Innis	**6** - 0	Nursing	

Co-ed Soccer

Oct. 1	Innis	**6** - 0	Medical Science	

NOTICE:

ICSS FALL BY-ELECTION

OCTOBER 25-26

Vote for your Innis College Council (ICC) representatives!

Vote online at *voting.utoronto.ca* or in-person at the ICSS office from October 25-26th.

Have questions? Contact elections.icss@gmail.com

A reflection on Persons Day at U of T through the lens of gender equality

Shankhalika Srikanth
SCIENCE

October is recognized as Women's History Month in Canada, in order to align with Persons Day on the 18th, which was the day that women were given legal recognition as "persons." This legal change came about in 1929, after the then highest court of appeal in the country ruled in favour of a challenge from a group of female activists, collectively known as the Famous Five. This ruling made it possible for women to be appointed to the Senate, and therefore become more involved in politics.

This historic verdict came 45 years after women were first allowed to attend the University of Toronto. Since then, the University has had many notable female graduates, including Clara Brett Martin, the first female lawyer in the British Empire; Roberta Bondar, the first female Canadian astronaut; and musicians such as renowned opera singer, Measha Brueggergosman. However, there are still many areas of the university where women are underrepresented.

Though the overall undergraduate student gender balance is about equal for general enrolment, and around 60% female for most fields of study, this number drops off to about 40% female in both the Math and Physical Sciences program, and the Engineering and Applied Sciences program. The reason for this lack of female enrolment may be the sense of masculinity that has been traditionally associated with areas such as engineering. This is why outreach groups (such as Women in Science and Engineering) and annual events (such as the Young Women in Engineering Symposium) are working to restore the balance by encouraging young women to study in these fields.

COURTESY OF ALAN YUSHENG WU

Participants at the 2016 Young Women in Engineering Symposium*, an important event for encouraging female representation in STEM, writes Shankhalika Srikanth.*

A prominent factor in this gender imbalance among students is the even greater imbalance within the faculty. In the 2014-15 school year, only 17% of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering were women, the lowest percentage of all the faculties at U of T. Overall, female faculty at the university make up only 35% of the total. This has a subtle but significant impact on female students, who have a hard time seeing themselves represented in the classroom environment. It can be especially isolating for queer women and women of colour, who are already underrepresented.

Outside of academics, U of T has endeavoured to be a more inclusive space for women of different backgrounds, and offers resources such as The Centre for Women and Trans People which is housed in North Borden. In an effort to curb the rates of sexual violence and harassment in recent years, there has also been a drive to implement and promote a consent culture at the university, through the establishment in 2017 of the Sexual Violence Prevention and Support Centre, and through education to incoming undergraduates during Orientation Week.

It is undeniable that U of T has made huge strides towards gender equality since its establishment nearly 200 years ago, but there remain many areas of imbalance within the community. The hope is that by the time the next Persons Day rolls around, we can be a few steps closer to resolving them.

Genetic testing is trending, but is it worth it?

Daniel Li
SCIENCE

Ten years ago, it would have cost you an arm and a leg to get your whole genome sequenced. It cost $10 million to sequence, analyze, and understand the more than 3 billion base pairs that make you what you are. Today, with more advanced and efficient techniques, you can sequence your entire genome for less than $2000, a fraction of the historical cost. Companies, such as 23andMe and AncestryDNA, have been taking advantage of these developments in technology. For less than $150, they offer to sequence portions of your genome that gives clues as to where your family may have originated and to "discover the family story your DNA can tell." Though I'm 99% certain of who I am, I would be lying if I said I wasn't interested in knowing a little bit more. I'm clearly not the only one—more than 15 million people have paid for these tests. What's stopping me from spitting in a test tube and finding out?

For starters, there is no definitive way of knowing how accurate these tests are. The issue with testing ancestry through DNA samples is that companies compare your genome to a database full of recently donated genomes. When you get your results back saying you are 60% Japanese, your DNA was tested against a genome database of people currently living in Japan. It does not tell you how your DNA compares against people who have lived in Japan in the past. It sounds minor, but with constantly changing demographics, large-scale migration, and growing databases, your 23andMe results could be anywhere from a close estimate to entirely wrong. It's hard to say where your ancestors may have actually lived.

Earlier this year, *Gizmodo,* a web magazine, tested the same human genome at three different companies: 23andMe, AncestryDNA, and National Geographic. Each company's tests ended up giving different results, with some rather drastic. variations Each company uses different statistical techniques and analyzes different parts of your genome, so you won't be finding any consistent results. Now that's not to say that genome sequencing is a flawed science—that's not true at all. What is flawed are the methods used to tell you where your family is from.

For many who have taken DNA tests, learning about their genomes has shaped their sense of culture and their sense of what they are. Companies are completely aware of this too. A couple of weeks ago, Spotify collaborated with AncestryDNA to give users custom playlists based on their DNA results. If AncestryDNA says you have Scottish DNA, Spotify will pull up traditional Scottish folk tunes. In the past AncestryDNA has shown ads of individuals turning a complete one-eighty on their identity. These companies are not just selling people their genealogy, they are also selling people a sense of cultural identity, and usually a misguided one. Forgetting the fact that most of these tests are inaccurate, it is important to keep in mind that your DNA is not your culture, nor your race.

Very recently, the science of genome sequencing has been turned into a tool used to justify racial categories. Ironically, genetic testing tells us race is nothing but a social construct—99.9% of everybody's DNA in the world is the same. But it's the tiny 0.1% of differences that can convince people otherwise. A study published in 2014 exposed individuals to news articles about ancestry testing. What researchers found was that these individuals left the experiment with deeper beliefs in racial differences. The alt-right and white supremacists have been testing their genomes to prove their "white-ness." Now it would be fair to assume that a good portion of these people will end up finding out they're not as "pure" as they think they are. Perhaps they may rethink their stance on racial superiority, right? It turns out most white supremacists tend to react less ideally. Some outright reject their results, going as far as claiming the testing companies are run by Hillary Clinton and the ″deep state.″ Others will give the same rationale I gave earlier—these tests aren't 100% perfect. And for those that end up getting results labelling them as "Grade A certified white", the DNA tests strengthen their beliefs.

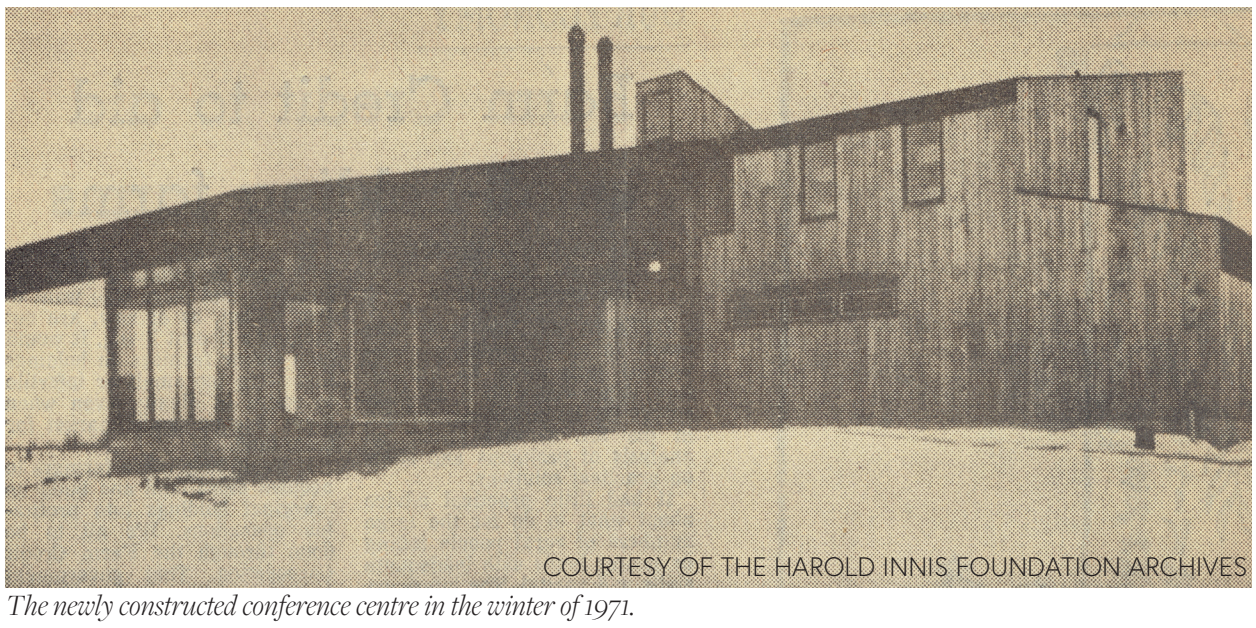
We would have to wait a long time for commercial gene sequencing to be perfect. And we would probably have to wait even longer for racial biases to die off, if they ever do. There are certainly many reasons why you should give these DNA tests a shot, curiosity being one. But when you consider the (in) accuracy of your results and the message companies are trying to sell, perhaps you should keep your saliva in your mouth.

Remembering Innisfree Farm

James Chapman

FEATURE

The year is 1971. Pierre Trudeau is the Prime Minister of Canada, gas costs 63 cents a gallon, and Innis College is the proud new owner of a 100 acre farm located in Oxford County, just west of Toronto. This is the story of Innisfree: Harold Innis' childhood home, the site of the university's brief experimentation with a rural conference centre, and today, the unassuming property of a family of ginseng farmers.



COURTESY OF THE HAROLD INNIS FOUNDATION ARCHIVES

The newly constructed conference centre in the winter of 1971.

At the height of the 1970s, the farm was famous among Innis College students as a place to spend autumn weekends for relaxing as well as participating in a variety of activities from mellow hangouts and hikes to raving dances. Indeed, for students, weekends at the farm embodied everything the 70s featured: communal living, a laid back lifestyle, and discussions about philosophical thought.

The Story of Innisfree

Harold Innis, the Canadian academic for whom the college is named, was born on Innisfree Farm in 1864. The property's single wooden farmhouse and barn became the site of not only Harold's upbringing, but also his academic inspiration.

As his biographer wrote, "[the] farm had given him his instinct for simplicity, his capacity for continuous hard work... and his ability to communicate understandingly with people in a wide variety of walks of life."

When Harold died in 1952, his brother, Sam Innis (photographed on the next page) became the legal owner of the family farm, a role Sam was less than eager to adopt. Instead of letting the farm go, Sam allowed the rural property to be acquired by the Harold Innis Foundation. The college formed the Foundation in 1968 and the acquisition of the farm was its first activity.

The project was billed as an attempt to preserve the legacy of Harold Innis' life and work. As a reporter in the Woodstock Sentinel Review wrote in 1971, "little is known about Innis despite his contribution because he had an uninteresting personality." The act of acquiring the farm sought to change this.

The property was meant to house a library of Harold's works and a conference centre for symposiums on his literature, as well as serve as a space for rural retreats for those working on his favoured topics of Canadian political economy and communications.

It was meant to be a "Pugwash of the future," charged Marshall McLuhan, a student of Harold's and the media theorist accredited with predicting the rise of the Internet. Pugwash was famous at the time as a rural conference centre in Nova Scotia, which hosted numerous high-level philosophic talks about nuclear weapons.

However, the farm did not come cheaply - nor easily - to the foundation. In 1969, the 120-year-old farm house on the property was in bad need of repairs, and after the acquisition of the property, the cost of constructing appropriate facilities and hiring live-in caretakers was not cheap. In that first year, the foundation raised $16,000, enough to purchase the property with a 6% mortgage. In the years that followed, the foundation would need an additional $150,000 for capital costs.

The group of city slickers who examined the site immediately after its purchase also seemed to face a number of physical barriers. In February 1969, Robin Harris, the principle of the college at the time, (photographed on the next page) told the London Free Press, "We haven't done a thing to anything on the farm. We still can't get into the silo, the door is barred on the inside."

These challenges were overcome by 1971 and in the fall of that year, a 25-person conference centre was opened on the site with two resident managers living in the historic farmhouse. 90 percent of the farm that was considered arable was also rented to a local farmer who grew corn on the fields.

> "There was a real sense of community among those who visited the farm and we all loved going up there."

In those early years, it cost $20,000 a year to operate the farm with $6,500 contributed through membership fees to the foundation and the rest from rentals and donations. Ads were quickly printed in university publications. Early users of the farm included Innis College staff members, numerous faculty associations, St. Stephen's in the Fields Church, and urban and film field courses.

The farm also quickly became a hit with the Oxford County locals and newspapers alike. Numerous articles were published throughout the 1970s about the farm's first caretakers, Campbell and Grace Laker, who lived on the farm with their two young children.

One journalist in particular remarked on the angular building of the site's conference centre as being "unique among the unimaginative square barns and farmhouses of the county."

The centre played host to local talks of regional importance, perhaps marking the beginning of Innis' long tradition of incorporating community with campus. When the Herald spoke to Roger Riendeau, Innis College's unofficial historian, former vice-principal, and current professor in the Writing and Rhetoric Program about the farm, Roger noted how the site became an unofficial representative of the university in Oxford County. Early events at the farm included a forum on regional governance, and another on the tobacco industry, for which Oxford County is Canada's heartland.

A Place for Students

Perhaps community and faculty uses of the farm were truest to its original purpose – to explore topics important to Harold Innis. That said, students' use of the farm represented the embodiment of the foundation's secondary goal: "to employ the farm to help guests gain a perspective lost in the urban university environment."

Students' first encounters with the farm came as a part of what was called "Woodlot Weekends." Through Harold's own concern for the land, the foundation established a program with the Ontario government in which parts of the lot would be reforested. Students would spend the weekend cutting down old growth trees and thinning the woodlot at the back of the farm, preparing the site for later planting. By 1972, 11,000 seedlings had been planted on the site.

Chris Glover, an Innis Alumnus and current Member of Provincial Parliament for Spadina-Fort York, fondly remembered the farm when he spoke to the Herald last week. Chris began his university career as a Victoria College student. However, during the summer prior to his first year at U of T, he transferred to Innis after falling in love with the pinball machines located in the college's basement and the cheap—sometimes free—beer that came from the machines' profits. Chris recalled traveling to the farm with twenty others on weekends with stereo and David Bowie cassettes in hand.

"There was a real sense of community among those who visited the farm and we all loved going up there," Chris told the Herald.

Soon after the farm's inception, the ICSS established a Farm Representative position on council who was responsible for organizing weekend trips to the farm. Visiting the farm was also a tradition of 'Innisiation,' the name of Orientation Week at the time.

"This facility [the farm] (because of the fun people and relaxed atmosphere) has always been a favourite place for the students of Innis to escape to," wrote Andrew Liebmann in the October 1984 edition of the Herald.

Andrew went on to report that the site was best for country walks, sleeping, and throwing a Frisbee around. He also noted, however, that a weekend at the farm wasn't solely "low-key" and "mellow." Students were encouraged to drink, dance, and "cut loose" in the evenings.

Indeed, the story of Innisfree is not without its more colourful elements. As the Herald reported in the 1980s, weekends at the farm were known to be 'Dionysian' in nature. Symptomatic of the 1970s and 1980s, weekend ICSS trips to the farm included everything from quiet walks in the forest to dancing, drinking, and debauchery. A great irony considering the Innis family themsevles were devote baptists and abstainers.

Asked about the facility, Professor Riendeau noted that the farm was a place for students to escape to the countryside from the city. The ICSS would have parties, as 19 and 20 year olds do, but nothing was ever unsafe, the police were never involved, and life would go on.

Even Chris Glover noted that while Innisfree was often simply known as "the farm" during his time as a student, the adjective "free" certainly describes students' experience there.

It seems the only people who were upset at the time were the site's astonished caretakers, Henry and Norma. Roger told the Herald he remembers having Monday morning calls with the couple, in which the weekend's events were described.

"I hated those Monday morning phone calls," stated Roger.

The Legacy

In 1972, the foundation faced something of a financial crisis. The Herald found numerous letters from then-principal, Peter Russell, to alumni requesting donations to help with the capital costs of the farm. The money was raised and the farm survived another 16 years.

The financial difficulties and administrative barriers that the foundation faced by the late 1980s, however, could not be so easily surmounted.

New challenges faced by the foundation were compounded by two facts, noted Professor Riendeau.

First, the farm was becoming an increasing liability. In a changing legal environment both the university and foundation recognized they were in a more litigious society—the farm opened both the college and the foundation up to lawsuits.

Second, by 1989 the farm required monumental repairs, including to the aging historical house on the property and the roof of the conference centre.

> "Don't put holes in the wall, pour beer on the carpet, or rip the toilets out of the wall..."

The farm was sold in July 1988.

Roger said the foundation was "relieved to be out of the property management business."

Soon after the farm was sold, a new owner—a Guelph University music professor named Doug Pullen—attempted to continue the conference centre, renting the space to the ICSS twice a year at the same place as when the site was owned by the Harold Innis Foundation.

Jim Shedden, Executive Secretary of the foundation at the time, warned students "not to blow it." In a humorous note in the Herald, Shedden wrote, "don't put holes in the wall, pour beer on the carpet, or rip the toilets out of the wall." Although it is unclear if this ever happened, a few years later Pullen no longer found the event-business profitable and the farm was sold to a ginseng farmer.

Roger described returning to the farm in the 1990s when the foundation attempted to establish a connection with its current owner. Unfortunately, no plan would come to fruition.

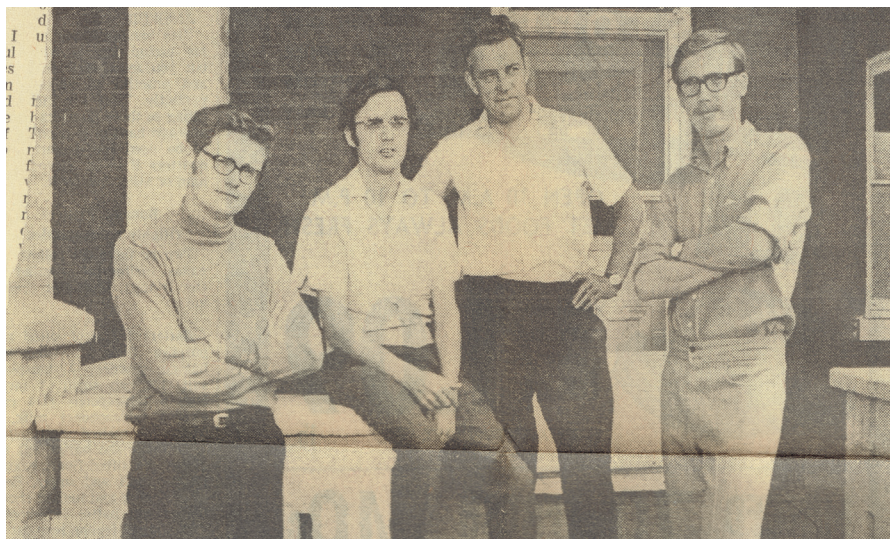
Today, little is known about the current owners of the farm or present use of the property. In 1988, the township of Norwich declared Harold's former house a heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act. A plaque commemorating Harold's life and works remains on site.

Through a detailed analysis of historic maps, hand drawn diagrams, and satellite imagery, the Herald was able to confirm that little has changed in the physical landscape of the property. The silo from the original barn now stands alone in the front field. A hydro-field still halves the property, separating the buildings from the bulk of the property's largest fields. The reforested woodlot at the back of the property remains sizable. The most noticeable change appears to be the installation of a pool by the current owners sometime between 2009 and 2013.

As for the foundation, the revenues from the farm allowed the Harold Innis Foundation to serve students better. Roger noted that instead of helping just a few, the sale of the farm and the foundation's return to financial stability ensured the body could function and assist students for decades to come. The foundation continues to issue three sizable student scholarships a year including the J.J. Stern award, the TA Reed Award and the Harold Innis Award.

In 2018, Innisfree has long since left the collective consciousness of the college's students, yet the legacy of the farm continues as the funding source of numerous student scholarships maintained by the Harold Innis Foundation, the origin of the college's proud history of blending community and campus life, and as a representation of Harold Innis' own thoughts and scholarship.

The Herald *is grateful for the assistance of Ben Westrate, Roger Riendeau, and the Harold Innis Foundation who made this article possible, and to MPP Chris Glover, whose fond memories of the farm inspired the piece. The historical plaque on the site of the farm can be visited in Norwich county at 225947 Otterville Rd, Otterville, Ontario.*



Captions clockwise from left: (1) Former Principal of Innis College, Peter Russell (left) with Harold's brother Sam Innis in front of the farm in the late 1960s. (2) The 1986 Orientation Committee at the farm. (3) From left to right: Jack Diamond (Architect), Melvin Watkins (economist and President of the Foundation), Robin Harris (Principal), and John Parsons (former Assistant Principal) outside the Innis family farmhouse after its purchase in 1969.

Sources clockwise from left:
(1) Harold Innis Foundation Archives, (2) The Innis Herald, (3) The London Free Press.

Urban Upheaval, *continued from page 1*

new system creates wards of 112,000 people, greatly reducing the ability for councillors to connect with their constituents.

While Ford's rhetoric surrounding Bill 5 largely focused on the shortcomings of the council itself, the explicit reasoning behind the Bill was economic. Ford estimated that the cuts would result in $25 million in savings over four years, and that taxpayers would rather see this money redirected into topical city issues than politicians' paychecks.

While $25 million may seem significant, it comprises a meager 0.2% of the city's $11.8 billion budget. Over four years, it works out to about $6.25 million per year, or $2.25 per Torontonian per year. Additionally, many have questioned the accuracy of the projected savings. While the salaries of the removed councillor positions would be eliminated, some have predicted that the remaining councillors will need to hire more staff to cover the increase in responsibilities. Others have argued that any short-term savings will be greatly outweighed by the long-term costs of having fewer councillors working to improve the city and meet with residents. Ultimately, the opposition to Bill 5 runs much deeper than the economic argument. Politicians, lawyers, advocates and citizens have all expressed outrage at the fundamental violation of democracy that the Bill espouses not only in Toronto but in the province at large.

> "While Bill 5 may not be unconstitutional, it still feels fundamentally unfair."

Though some city councillors supported the cuts, the majority of sitting councillors are in opposition, including Mayor John Tory. The council decided to challenge Bill 5, voting 27-15 in favour of bringing the matter before the Ontario Superior Court. Council centred the argument on the fact that the legislation was passed during the campaign period, a move which they argued endangered the integrity of the election and the ability of candidates to adequately campaign. Beyond campaigning, it also required city staff to determine new voting locations, reallocate staff, and produce materials to inform voters of the ramifications of this decision—a large task to accomplish in two month's time. The Province argued that its decision was purely one of policy, and one that was within the scope of its powers.

A now infamous series of events ensued. Superior Court Justice Edward P. Belobaba ruled in favour of the City and deemed the Province's invoking of Bill 5 unconstitutional, violating section 2(b) of the Charter (freedom of expression). Specifically, he cited the timing of the Bill as interfering in candidate's freedom of expression through campaigning, and said that the redrawing of wards changed the ratio of councillors to residents in a way that interfered with the ability of citizens to "cast a vote that can result in effective representation."

While Justice Belobaba's decision was celebrated by many in the city, the legal reasoning underlying the decision was questioned. Many legal scholars argued that invoking section 2 to protect "effective representation" went beyond its scope, and that any possible Charter violation would occur under section 3 (democratic rights) which does not apply to municipalities. The Province appealed the verdict, but also took much more drastic measures in the interim.

Premier Ford announced his plan to invoke the notwithstanding clause to override Justice Belobaba's ruling on September 10. The notwithstanding clause allows federal and provincial governments to override Charter rights for five years. The clause has never been invoked in Ontario, and has only been invoked a handful of times in other provinces. Ford's announcement sparked outcry and protests across the country.

> "There is little Toronto can do to change its standing... secession is nearly impossible."

The clause, however, was never invoked. The Ontario Court of Appeal granted a stay on Justice Belobaba's ruling, deeming it "dubious" and ordering the city to proceed with the 25 ward election. The stay made the use of the notwithstanding clause unnecessary, and resulted in Toronto proceeding with the 25 ward election.

The city is in uncharted territory, and the cut leaves the composition of city council largely unknown. Many incumbent councillors are now facing off against each other—22 incumbents are now competing in 11 wards. Other councillors who intended to pursue re-election dropped out of the race in the midst of the Bill 5 chaos.

The new council is also set to be even less representative than its predecessor. Currently, only 14 of Toronto's 44 councillors are women. Even more troubling is the fact that 4 of the 9 female incumbents running for re-election are running against each other, while 3 are running against incumbent male councillors. Many advocates have voiced concern that the council cuts will not only decrease representation for women but for other minority groups who are currently underrepresented on the largely white, male council.

While Bill 5 may not be unconstitutional, it still feels fundamentally unfair. It disrupted an election, reduced representation, and was ultimately created by an individual who was nowhere near elected by the majority of Torontonians. But as long as Toronto remains a "creature of the province," the provincial government has the right to pass almost any law within it, even ones that are, in the words of Justice Belobaba, "draconian."

Can we only be a creature of the province?

Toronto is in its current position because of the way cities are incorporated into Canada's Constitution. Canada's largely rural population in 1867 made the delegation of municipal authority to the provinces logical. As a result, however, cities in Canada technically have no inherent powers and must act in accordance with their province.

Despite this constitutional restriction, some cities in Canada have been granted additional authority and independence by their provincial governments. Cities in the province of British Columbia, for example, have a much broader scope of authority. British Columbia has a sort of "Bill of Rights" for cities in which the provincial government acknowledges the independence of local jurisdictions.

Even in these cases of greater self-governance, all cities remain under the jurisdiction of their provinces in the Canadian Constitution. This means that any laws granting extra power to cities could be altered or repealed at any time under the whim of a provincial government.

In the United States, all cities have high levels of independence. While municipal law cannot contradict federal or state law, cities are not subject to the decisions of state governments. Municipalities in the US can apply directly to the federal government for funding, and almost all have charters that enable cities to govern their own affairs. These municipal freedoms are largely the result of American individualism and the fact that many American cities were well-established prior to the creation of the American Constitution. The County of Los Angeles is a particularly good example of this. It has a charter which grants the city the power to levy taxes and distribute income, and the city has also created borough councils to increase representation and civic engagement.

Unfortunately, there is little Toronto can do to change its standing in Canada. Secession from the province is nearly impossible; every provincial legislature would need a majority to vote in favour of the change for Toronto to change its standing in the Constitution.

The best way for Toronto to fight for its democracy, autonomy, and authority is to support politicians who will treat the city as having control over its own affairs. This starts with voting for city councillors who both actively oppose Ford and have promised to fight for a return to the 47 ward system. It also means taking action in four years to shut Ford and his conservatives out of provincial government. On October 22, Torontonians can make a decision about the kind of city they want to see, and the councillors they want to speak, act, and fight on their behalves.

Vote—show Premier Ford that Toronto's democracy is not so easily dismantled.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL ELECTION

POLLS FOR U OF T STUDENTS ARE OPEN:

OCTOBER 22
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
@ HART HOUSE
(7 KING'S COLLEGE CIRCLE)

To find more information on who is elligible to vote and what to bring to the polling station, visit *toronto.ca/elections*

"Our house!"

A midnight trip to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Calder Morton-Ferguson
POLITICS

In the early hours of September 17th, 2018, the members of provincial parliament at the legislative assembly of Ontario were up long past their bedtimes. I was, too; my roommate James and I had found ourselves in the Members' Gallery at Queen's Park, watching first-hand what turned out to be the wildest night in the recent history of Ontario politics. At the time, it felt dreamlike and surreal - we were there with our shorts and t-shirts, next to members of parliament dressed in their Monday-morning best, and witnessing the drama unfold.

The legislative slumber party was the culmination of a chain of political events which started back in July, when Premier Doug Ford announced that he would cut Toronto's city council in half. Most city councillors were not happy about this. In August, they voted 27 to 15 to pursue legal action with the hope of stopping the Premier's plan. This worked - on September 10th, a justice on the Ontario Superior Court ruled that Ford's plan violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Upon this ruling, Ford's counterplay was to use the very same Charter to override the court's decision. He declared he would use the "notwithstanding clause," a feature of the Charter never before used in Ontario, to strike down the ruling and proceed with his original plan.

A September poll found that 65 percent of Toronto residents opposed Ford's invocation of the clause. The Progressive Conservative party wanted to pass legislation to invoke the clause quickly, but in the coming week, members of parliament were scheduled to take time off to attend a plowing match in Chatham-Kent. To try and pass their legislation as soon as possible, the government scheduled an emergency reading for their bill to begin at 12:01am on September 17th.

For James and I, the night (which ended surrounded in equal parts by boisterous protests and tedious speeches) began in our living room, where we decided on a whim that we would bike over to Queen's Park to see what all the hype was about. When we arrived at the front lawn of the legislative assembly, we saw a long line of people waiting for a spot in the public gallery. Everyone to whom we talked said that they had come in opposition to the government's use of the notwithstanding clause, and wanted to show up to make this opposition visible to Doug Ford and the Conservatives. This was certainly the hype we were looking for, but the turnout also meant that we were surely too late to secure ourselves seats in the public gallery.

We were correct about this last point - I later followed up with some friends waiting in that line who stood outside for hours without being admitted into the public gallery. Just before we gave up hope, we were whisked into a separate line by a friend of James': an NDP staffer who had special passes for admittance to the private members' gallery. Within a few minutes, we were inside, and we made it into the legislature's main chambers just in time for the reading to begin.

COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN PRESS

Protesters, including City Councillor Janet Davis and Innis UTSU Director Lucas Granger, line-up outside Queen's Park for a rare midnight sitting of the Ontario Legislature.

My first thought upon entering the chambers was that we were only a few feet away from the semi-famous members of parliament who actually make our provincial laws. My second thought was that none of them looked at all tired - everyone seemed ready for what was about to take place. When we took our seats in the members' gallery, a young legislative usher reminded us that no one in the galleries would be permitted to speak, applaud, or make visible gestures.

Those rules didn't last long. Five minutes into the opening speech given by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, ex-NDP member of parliament Rev. Cheri DiNovo took a seat next to us in the gallery and began to loudly raise her concerns with the government. "You do not need to vote with him!" we heard her yell to the MPPs. "This is a sad, sad day for Ontario," she said, as the legislative usher performed her titular duty.

DiNovo was taken out quickly. James and I exchanged wide-eyed glances about her quick departure, and for a moment it seemed as though the minister's speech would continue without interruption. It was then that the doors to the public gallery were opened, and the people from the front of the line whom we had seen outside started shuffling in. DiNovo had broken the ambient silence surrounding the minister's voice, but it now disappeared completely. We could hear faint murmurs from the public gallery in response to the minister's defense of Ford, and these murmurs quickly grew to howls of protest.

Members of the public chanted "shame!" as they were ushered out. Some were arrested and handcuffed when they refused to leave. "I am a city council candidate!" one man yelled, leaning over the banister separating the public gallery from the bowels of the legislature. He proceeded to point directly at Ford, swearing at him and calling him by name. Ford met his eyes with a sneer for a moment, then chuckled with his fellow Conservatives. It seemed like the confidence of the crowd only grew as time went by. The crowd's passionate and often scathing shouting grew for many minutes until the Speaker of the House ordered: "Clear the galleries!" At this point, everyone who remained in the public galleries was removed. James and I were in the private gallery, though—we got to stay.

We stayed there, taking in what had happened in the public galleries and what continued to happen on the house floor. The reading went on: it was much less interesting now that it wasn't being interrupted by the defiant rebukes of the public. At about 2:00 am, we decided to call it a night and give up our precious seats in the members' gallery. "I haven't seen anything like this since I've worked here," said a security guard in passing as we left the main chambers. As we were leaving, we could hear rumbling from inside the house and thundering shouts coming from outside. When we left the building, we saw people lying down and pounding their feet against the walls from the outside. "Whose house?" someone screamed; "our house!" was the resounding reply.

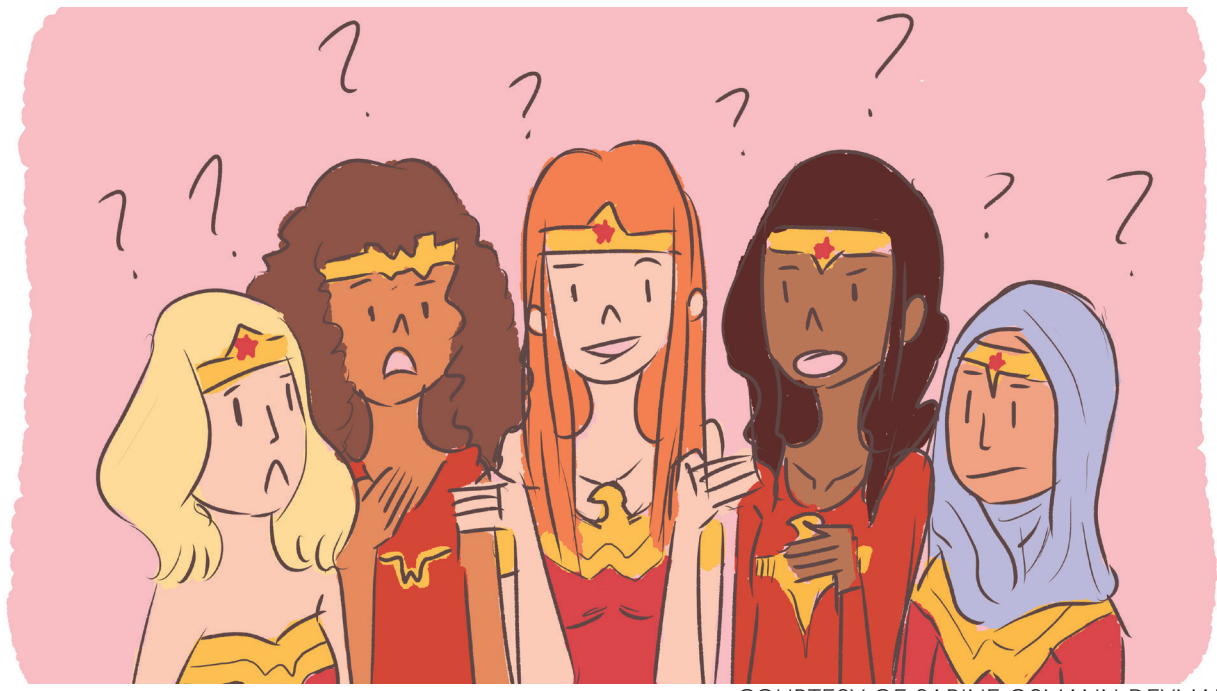
Apparently, the reading went on until the next morning, with the protests slowly dying out with the night. James and I biked back home, talking incessantly about the night's events, trying to capture in words the feverish excitement we had felt in the room - the fervent and unrelenting energy that emanated from those who had shown up to protest the bill. We concluded that there was something about the circumstances that made September 17th special: I wasn't sure if it was the time of night, the fierce contrast between the formalities of House decorum and the protests, or the fact that we were two of the handful of people who got to witness all of this happen as outsiders, but something made that night feel like the important culmination of Toronto's opposition to the fate of its council.

Two days later, a three-judge panel on the Ontario Court of Appeals overruled the Superior Court's decision, effectively making Ford's pursuance of the notwithstanding clause unnecessary. The ruling was made on a Wednesday morning at 10:00am.

Diversity our strength

Improving representation in media

Meghan Gheron
ARTS & CULTURE



COURTESY OF SABINE OSMANN-DEYMAN

Audiences must demand better portrayals of women and people of colour in Hollywood, writes Meghan Gheron.

With the surfacing of movements such as #OscarsSoWhite and #MeToo, which respectively highlight the lack of diversity at the Academy Awards and widespread mistreatment of women, it is little wonder that diversity has been Hollywood's hot topic for the past several years. With so much emphasis being placed on diverse casts and female leads, it seems clear that things are changing for the better. But is that perspective misleading?

Previously, diverse films featuring a variety of perspectives were considered the territory of indie films, relegated to obscure film festivals and denied their chance to shine on the big screen. Today, it is increasingly recognized that diversity is no obstacle to box office domination. *Black Panther* is the most conspicuous example of this phenomenon, pulling a box office total of $1.346 billion. Coogler's film stands as the United States' third highest grossing film of all time. It also made waves worldwide despite an all-persistent myth that film with diverse casts do not sell well abroad, becoming the ninth highest grossing film of all time.

Black Panther is not alone. Titles such as *Wonder Woman, Furious 7*, and *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* also make top the list of highest Hollywood earners, and feature diverse casts and female leads. Admittedly, the latter two relied on the previous successes of their franchises, but the *Fast and Furious* series in particular was built on its diverse cast, an early indication of audience desire for representation.

Lack of inclusion in Hollywood can often be boiled down to "playing it safe." This is the reason for reboots and long-running franchises or the staleness of tried-and-tested, recycled stories. Up until very recently, diverse movies such as *Black Panther* were not playing it safe. That tide is slowly turning.

It can be argued, then, that Hollywood has not changed—it has simply shifted its parameters. Its goal is, and has always been, revenue as opposed to quality or justice.

Certainly this concept has weight to it. Yet the probability this will or can ever change is low, given the nature of the business. In many ways, the importance of the box office has opened the doors to diversity in modern times and enabled different faces to be recognized by larger audiences. Blockbusters that rake in the millions travel further than independent movies, and resonate with larger numbers of people, allowing for wider opportunity.

Another perspective is that diversity in Hollywood should not be limited to the faces we see on screen, yet so often it is. All discourse seem to be focused on actors, with little thought given to all other positions in the film and television industry and how little some people find themselves represented.

In 2017/2018, women made up a mere 27% of all behind-the-scenes jobs on broadcast network—this includes directors, writers, producers, editors, and directors of photography. This is a decline of 1% from the previous year and the number has remained relatively stable since 2006. There has been no meaningful increase in the number of significant roles for women behind the scenes in twelve years.

A quick perusal of the Oscars' Best Director category further illustrates the problem. As of 2018, only five women have ever been nominated for Best Director, and only one has ever won (Kathryn Bigelow for 2008's *The Hurt Locker*). Non-white directors, and especially non-white female directors, are also much fewer and further in between than their white counterparts.

In the top 100 grossing films of 2017, women made up 10% of writers, 2% of cinematographers, 14% of editors, and 24% of producers. The Guild of American Cinema Editors has a non-white member population of less than 25 among 400 active participants, something its president Steven Poser has actively spoken out about. The prestigious American Society of Cinematographers also has a woefully low female and non-white membership.

The role of the storyteller, and those who make the storytelling possible, are as important as the instruments of the story. The job market and environment for those behind the scenes matters as much as it does for actors, though their plight may be less visible. The conversation on diversity often ignores their voices and stories, which is an incredible misstep on the part of those even with the best of intentions.

The purpose of diversity is twofold: it is a responsibility to those both within the industry and those outside of it. Equal opportunity should exist for jobs both onscreen and off, and all manners of stories deserve to be told. In an ideal world, representation is neither gimmicky nor insincere; it benefits all people. It's hard to say how long this will take to occur fully, if ever, but the work should always continue.

"A Portrait of Manila"

Jadine Ngan
CREATIVE

Follow me to the home I almost knew:

Follow me to the city where stray animals and fruit stands meet lackadaisical urban sprawl, where schoolchildren dangle legs off rickety bridges to watch the cars inch by below. Follow me to chaos and motion. Fill your lungs with the density of smog and tropic—let it sink in. My little sister has always loved that smell, still searches for it everywhere else she goes. To her, born and raised as she was in clear Canadian air, it smells like comfort. Family. Laughter. To me, it conjures summers of wandering through megamalls and wet markets, of finding my place at a table of ten or twenty instead of four.

And we'll take a drive, so I can show you the city the way I've always seen it, through the tinted windows of my uncle's large white van. I'll point out the KKK monument that confounded me as a 12-year-old—the good pan de sal shops—the tin-can jeepneys the Second World War left behind. If my father's there, he'll take us past the neighbourhood he and my mother walked the streets of as children, coexisting and somehow circling but never meeting 'til Los Angeles (everyone here has someone sending money home from Dubai, Hong Kong, California: this is a nation of diaspora, of flux, flow, and scatter). If we're lucky—or unlucky—monsoon season will envelope us whole, the storm falling in sheets 'til water gushes out of the sewers. *Ay! Basa na!* And at dinner my aunt Susan will pray for the families we saw huddled in doorless homes, watching the baha lap at their doorstep. May God watch over them.

This is not the Manila of the postcards. This is not the Philippines of white-sand beaches, of bangkas bobbing low in turquoise waters. This Manila I carry with me in my bones is the Manila where the rich own five or six cars, drive a different Lamborghini each day past children washing themselves in the rain. Where homes of tarp and sagging laundry lines share a skyline with glittering high-rises. We can drive to Divisoria and buy knockoff Kate Spade for less than a Happy Meal in America, but wear your backpack in front and whatever you do, don't flash your phone. Jesus may be watching from every storefront and tricycle, but when did that ever stop the hungry?

Review: *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*

COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Andrew Zhao

REVIEW

Everyone I know who has seen the movie *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* has watched it more than once. Netflix's most recent rom-com hit is just that kind of heartwarming, gushy, endlessly replayable movie.

There is so much to be celebrated about *TATBILB*—it's a feel-good crowd-pleaser with an Asian-American lead—but the movie's plot, screenplay, and acting leave much to be desired.

In the film, Lana Condor stars as Lara Jean Covey, our relatable high school heroine. Lara Jean, known to her sisters Margot (Janel Parrish) and Kitty (Anna Cathcart) simply as LJ, spends most of her time in her room reading romance novels and living out fantasies in her head. Deeply averse to expressing romantic feelings to her crushes directly, Lara Jean writes love letters to the most intense crushes she's ever had. She calls these her "most precious possessions," and keeps them in her closet with no intention of ever sending them.

Somehow, the letters get mailed out and—as you can imagine—chaos ensues. To convince her former crush Josh (Israel Broussard) that she's over him, Lara Jean and another former crush Peter (Noah Centineo) agree to start a fake relationship to throw Josh off the scent. The rest of the film follows Lara Jean and Peter as their relationship goes from fake to not-so-fake.

The plot's celebration of inexperience is definitely praiseworthy. Watching Lara Jean struggle to find a seat at lunch because her only friend is missing shows *TATBILB*'s teenage audience that it's okay to be a little lonely or a little lost. Few among us can claim to have cruised through high school, which is why the characters resonate with us. *TATBILB* also validates us when we find ourselves daydreaming or toying with fantasies in our heads. You can spend days thinking about a crush with no intention of ever telling that person your feelings—and that's normal!

Lana Condor's performance is one of the movie's bright spots. She inhabits the character of Lara Jean perfectly. The moment I truly appreciated her performance was when I watched a cast interview afterwards and realized that Condor's loud, outgoing personality is completely different than the quiet, almost timid character of Lara Jean.

Despite its other boundary-breaking qualities, *TATBILB*'s plot is hopelessly idealized. Other than Lara Jean, the characters rarely deviate from classic archetypal moulds. Peter Kavinsky is a classic jock. John Corbett's role as Dr. Covey (Lara Jean's father) says all the correct, supportive, quips at all the right moments—but it just feels contrived. Fake relationships in real life never pan out this way.

TATBILB doesn't break the tried-and-true rom-com formula—nor does it attempt to—but if you suspend your disbelief, the results are endlessly enjoyable. Forgo the popcorn on this one. It's time to grab your warmest blanket and break out the ice cream.

Andrew Zhao is a third-year Political Science student with absolutely no qualifications to review movies. I am not a "film historian"—sorry, Principal Keil.

Dear Abby: Any advice for a fashionable Canuck?

Dear Abby,

I have recently developed a heightened awareness of the dreaded (or adored) Canadian tuxedo* after being called out for occasionally sporting the look around town. Given the shortening days and the beginning of denim season, what is your opinion on the look? Do you have any golden rules for pairing denim pieces given their convenience and warmth?

-The Fashionable Canuck

Dear Canuck,

I am 100% guilty of wearing the Canadian tuxedo. It is a great way to keep warm AND to look hot as the days get cooler - I even went to class wearing one this morning.

However, I strongly object to the idea of golden rules for clothing or appearances. The only rule you should abide by is to wear what you want to wear, and stand by it with confidence. As someone who has been told multiple times that my style is "I don't give a shit," my personal philosophy is always to wear the clothes that make you happy. The idea that you can't "pull something off" is also flawed: the only thing you need to do to rock a look is to put the clothes on your body, and if you're nervous, just fake it 'till you make it.

**A Canadian tuxedo is an all-denim outfit.*

Dear Abby,

What are your tips for staying productive?

-The Unproductive Sloth

Dear Sloth,

First of all, it is very important to set goals that motivate you to stay productive. These should be daily, weekly, monthly and yearly goals to keep you on track.

One of the biggest reasons that people have a tendency to be unproductive is that they lose motivation to do the work they need to do. Keep track of what inspires you to help you keep going.

Another incredibly important tip should be obvious but bears repeating: be mindful of your mental and physical health. I think it is very easy to let the stress get the better of you—especially in an environment like U of T that often glorifies stress and normalizes all nighters and coffee benders.

To do your best work at school and in life, you need to put your health first. Try your hardest to have a good amount of sleep each night, develop a routine that allows for healthy breaks, and be mindful of your brain and body.

Submit your questions to Abby on The Herald's *facebook page to see them answered in the next edition!*

Commuter free food events

Why is this still a thing?

Andrew Zhao

OPINION

Free Krispy Kreme donuts in the Innis Cafe. Wraps from Fresh. Popeye's. We've all seen those Facebook events. We've all hit that "Interested" button.

But these commuter free food events don't actually add any value to student life at the college. So why does the ICSS still run them? Why is this still a thing?

It is not entirely clear how giving out free food furthers the ICSS's stated goals. According to its constitution, the Council aims to "provide opportunities for social engagement" and "promote community" at Innis.

So how do free Krispy Kreme donuts accomplish these goals? Short answer: they don't. It would be disingenuous to suggest that popping in, grabbing a donut, and rushing off to class somehow qualifies as "social engagement." After all, the main feature of free food events is the free food, not the socializing. There is no activity component involved.

These free food events are run by the ICSS Off-Campus Representatives, who—according to the constitution—are supposed to "encourage community participation" by Innis commuter students.

But free food events aren't well-targeted at commuters, or even Innis students for that matter. Free food doesn't discriminate—on-campus residents and strangers off the street can walk in and take a couple Popeye's drumsticks without any repercussions. It's no surprise to anyone that these events get re-posted all over Facebook groups like "Free Food UTSG," attracting throngs of non-Innis non-commuters to the commuter lounge.

So these events don't promote community, and aren't even targeted towards commuters. How much do they cost?

In the 2017–2018 school year, the commuter portfolio spent an eye-popping $6374.59 on free food events. So why should students shoulder this enormous cost?

Proponents of these events, such as former Commuter Representative and current ICSS President Brandon Liu, have argued that turnout for free food events is higher than any other ICSS events. During the ICSS's last general meeting of 2017–2018, Liu asked for over $2000 in addition to the existing Off-Campus budget to run a final free food event. After receiving some pushback from the Council (myself included), Liu responded that the turnout for his events was the "greatest ever."

Does that really surprise anyone? You're giving out free food to anyone who shows up! Of course turnout will be high. Don't get me wrong, increasing event turnout is an important part of "social engagement" and "promoting community." But surely it can't be the only part. Getting people to turn out is one thing—getting people to stay and engage with the college community is another.

To their credit, this year's commuter reps have planned for fewer free food events. "We are planning this year on having more events that aren't just free food," said Breanna Lima, one of the current Off-Campus Representatives, in a statement to the Herald.

Still, the Off-Campus portfolio is planning on spending $3070 out of their $4562 budget on free food events this year. Lima argues that free food events give students an opportunity to connect with their peers. Reflecting on her first-year commuter experience, Lima said that she "felt left out of all the residence events," and noted that "almost every Innis person I met, I met at the commuter lounge, and usually during free food events." In her mind, it is up to commuters to take the initiative to get involved at these events. "Whether or not someone takes this opportunity and makes some new relationships is up to them."

However, the purpose of the ICSS should be to actively "promote community," not simply lay out the pizza, cross their fingers, and hope community forms spontaneously. Getting involved is hard, so student government should make every effort possible to encourage engagement. The onus is on student representatives to engage the student body, not the other way around.

The ICSS is currently facing a $6629.06 budget shortfall. In light of this, the Council should cut funding for free food events and replace them with events that are both financially feasible and beneficial to student life at the college.

The point of pooling together student money with fees is to run events and support initiatives that individual students can't on their own. So what's the difference between a free food event and 80 students buying Popeye's on their own? Not "social engagement," that's for sure.

Note: After having been asked for comment by the Herald, the Off-Campus Representatives reduced their budget for free food to $966.96 at the ICSS budget meeting.

A taste of home

Authentic Italian cuisine near campus

Sabrina Daniele

REVIEWS

Trattoria Fieramosca

36A Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto

"Visited Twice Already!"

I find that I keep returning to *Trattoria Fieramosca* time and time again.

As a student, I find this place to be the go-to spot if you want both class and affordability. To note, I have had the pleasure of dining there twice, and plan to do so again in the future. For me, *Fieramosca* hits the spot because of its originality. To start, it is close to U of T's St. George campus. Located near Yorkville, this spot has to be the coziest restaurant I have ever been to. Upon arrival, the first impression you'll get is that it doesn't look like a typical restaurant. Instead, it looks like a rustic house. Don't stay away; open the door and step right into historic Italy. The entrance immediately features a beautiful fragrance. It is a light and welcoming scent - I just had to include this, because it cannot go unnoticed.

In terms of food, my meals were to die for. Why? Because *Fieramosca* features an authentically Italian and original menu. The two times I have been, I have ordered the same thing because it is just that tempting: the Ravioli Di Ricotta Al Pesto. This dish combines fresh ravioli stuffed with ricotta and a creamy pesto sauce. Once you try it, you will understand just how good it is.The portion sizes are quite large, so I left the restaurant satisfied.

In terms of drinks, in my opinion it is not "student budget" worthy. Drinks cost almost as much as the food itself. However, they do offer a variety of selection of whites, reds, and liqueurs. I ordered the White Zinfandel. *Fieramosca* never disappoints and the cost is well worth what they give you. You get what you pay for here.

The staff was very nice, attentive, and incredibly knowledgeable about the food and what drinks go best with what dish. I was impressed. The ambiance

COURTESY OF TRATTORIA FIERAMOSCA

Trattoria Fieramosca is nestled on Prince Arthur Avenue, just a five minute walk from the north end of campus.

is very classy, and can make for a great night out with your friends and family, or even if you just want to treat yourself.

Trattoria Fieramosca will see me again for a third time - and I will probably order the same dish again.

Sabrina Daniele's restaurant reviews are a new feature in the Innis Herald. *Sabrina, a Innis College Student, is also a staff writer with the popular website,* Tripadvisor.

RAINY DAY VIBES

Sarah Laudenbach

PLAYLIST

With the weather getting colder and the skies getting grayer—not to mention the rapid approaching of midterms—it can be a struggle to stay positive when you've got the autumn blues. This is a playlist designed for those rainy days, when you just need to take things slow and easy.

#1
"How"
Clairo

Starting off with some good old-fashioned lo-fi, Clairo's "How" is the perfect blend of upbeat rhythms and calming vocals. If you're trying to get some studying done while it's pouring outside, this is the perfect song.

#2
"worldstar money (interlude)"
Joji

A bit unlike the rest of Joji's work, "worldstar money (interlude)" is on the more acoustic side of lo-fi. Lo-fi beats are always the most relaxing thing to listen to on peacefully rainy days and this song is no exception.

#3
"Sorry"
Halsey

From Halsey's most recent album, "Sorry" is a somber piano ballad written to her ex-lovers. Halsey's powerful vocals coupled with a solo piano melody make for a soulful song designed for rainy-day reflection.

#4
"Make My Bed"
King Princess

From their first ever EP, Make My Bed, this song by genderqueer artist King Princess is both catchy and calming. "Make My Bed" is the perfect thing to play for relaxing at home and making the most of a day spent inside.

#5
"Idle Town"
Conan Gray

With nostalgic lyrics that'll remind you of your hometown, wherever that may be, "Idle Town" is an ode to the familiar. If you're feeling homesick, this song will bring you back to watching summer rain showers from your front porch.

#6
"lovely"
Billie Eilish feat. Khalid

"Lovely" is the perfect introduction to the music of Billie Eilish. Filled with beautiful harmonies and a haunting melody, this is the type of song that will make you want to stand outside to feel the rain on your skin.

#7
"Visions of Gideon"
Sufjan Stevens

Fans of *Call Me By Your Name* will remember this heartbreaking piece by Sufjan Stevens. Written for crying over lost love, "Visions of Gideon" can be reserved for losing yourself in thought while you idly watch the world go by.

#8
"NFWMB"
Hozier

Fresh off of Hozier's newest EP, "NFWMB" is quietly powerful and somewhat melancholy. Combining a strong beat with gentle vocals, "NFWMB" is the ideal song to listen to while a storm rages outside your bedroom window.

"The Park"

Angel Yao

CREATIVE

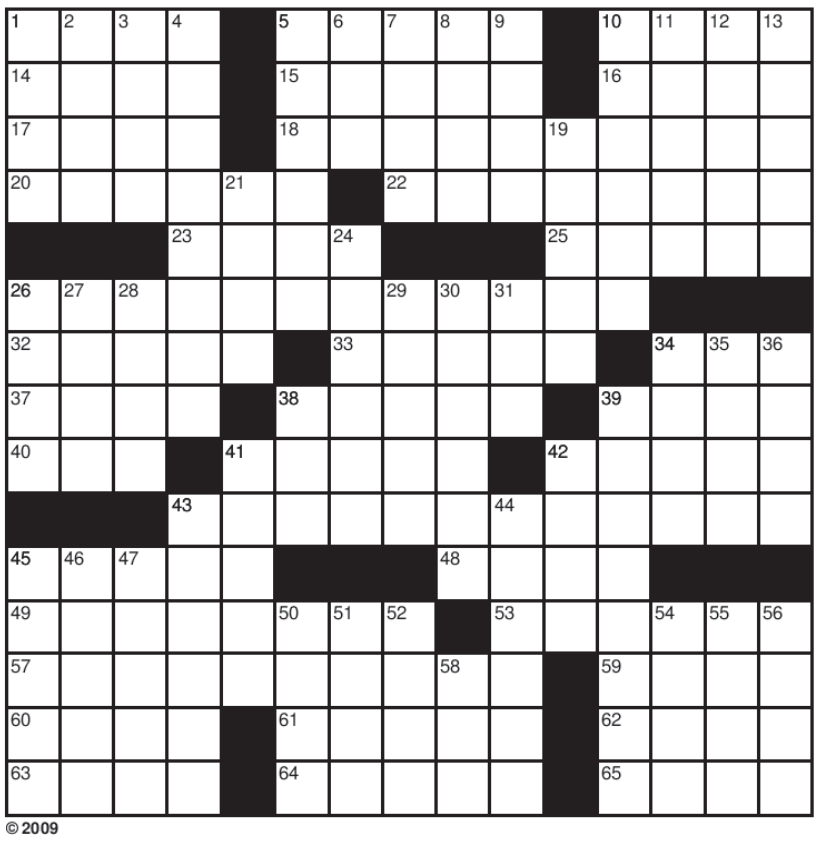
I called it the Park. I saw it while in search of you, and fell in love with it when I found you. Within all the clattering of a growing city, it remained quietly on the edge of a mountain, overlooking the ocean on one side, and surrounded by a forest on the other.

It was at first an aimless following of its narrow trails, my boots painted by specks of mud that jumped up from the earth with my every step. Through the thick forest of coniferous trees, I let the wet smell of the morning dew cling to my sweater and dampen it with a faint sweetness hinting of your presence. I felt traces of you as the wind brushed through my hair with a saltiness from the ocean below; as the ruffling of leaves harmonized with the distant crashing of endless waves rolling onto land and back again; I even thought I found you when the timid squirrels leaped high up to the trees, though all I wanted to do was ask if they were in your embrace. Just as the twisted vines of panic curled around my throat, you tapped my shoulders and whispered ″patience″ against the drums of my ears. So I listened, and sat down on a cold pebbled bench in the Park in hopes of your presence.

The Park, however beautiful and tranquil, was not a place of comfort after the setting of the sun below the horizon. With boldness, It tested my endurance and resilience against the harshness of nature. The ocean wind chilled down my boiling thoughts, and scratched my face to a crimson red with its frosty touch. My hands scrambled back into my sleeves as the dark shadows of the forest gradually loomed over me. As I remained on the bench in anxious anticipation of your arrival, the little pebbles jabbed into my skin in mockery of my fragility against their sharp edges. Still I persisted, and grew to love the shocking coldness that the Park submerged me in. As my breaths turned to fog, and needles from the pine trees around me fell on my shoulders one by one, I was revived. In the depths, I finally felt them, the thundering echos of your soundless footsteps.

Through my lonesome journey in pursuit of you, the Park took me down the paths of springs and winters. It welcomed me with grace and everything it had to offer, but in exchange, it gave me a chilling lash of its harshness. In its comfort I hopelessly searched for you, yet in its torment I found your presence to be everything I had around me. You let me wander without directions, and showed me the light and the dark where they existed. With gratitude, I looked back to the trees, the ocean, the waves, the wind. Then I turned, and with your gracefulness, continued on where I left off into future and freedom itself.

CROSSWORD



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ACROSS

1. Support
5. Dancer Astaire
10. IRA part
14. Half of a popular soda flavor
15. Car maker known for its lounges
16. Contraband carrier
17. Contraband customer
18. Mount a successful defense
20. Dojo honcho
22. Word with socialized or family
23. Citizen Sailor's org.
25. Something to go through
26. Make a mistake at the Met
32. Bear
33. Organic ingredient for ferilizer or gunpowder
34. Prefix with morning or night
37. A soldier may try to hold it
38. Dadaism pioneer Max
39. Star Trek actress Ryan
40. Single syllable scold
41. Prominent character in "Meet Joe Black"
42. Many a male at the Met
43. Sing with gusto
45. Toil
48. Gray grp.
49. Tweedy type
53. He may take orders well
57. Make the mine pay, perhaps
59. Red Stromboli filling?
60. Bitter
61. Kind of ego
62. Word of seen in neon
63. Till fillers
64. Like many top shelves
65. Sleeping place for campers

DOWN

1. Bonus
2. Climb
3. Harbinger
4. Convince
5. Melanin-deficient
6. Not-quite-failing test result
7. Test
8. Oud's cousin
9. Cornerstone abbr.
10. Don of "Heaven Can Wait"
11. Papal court
12. Gaelic groups
13. Crow's nest?
19. Up on
21. Those Italian lasses
24. Nickelodeon's Phil or Lil DeVille, e.g.
26. You can come to it by standing still
27. Wading bird
28. Peter Pan's pixie pal, briefly
29. Total
30. New Hampshire site of Daniel Webster College
31. Niagara Falls prov.
34. "Help" or "File", often
35. Press
36. Calamitous
38. Conger or moray
39. F-16 flier
41. Jeter of the Yankees
42. Twelve Oaks neighbor
43. "Bones" plot elements
44. Like most bling, some would say
45. Rancher's rope
46. Follow, as a stock tip
47. Dance studio fixture
50. Sweet brew
51. Inuit abode
52. Sleeping places for campers
54. Bit of Watergate evidence
55. Balanced
56. Dennis Miller specialty
58. Baha Men: "Who ___ the Dogs Out"

COURTESY OF ROBERT STOCKTON

SUDOKU

COURTESY OF PUZZLES.CA

EASY

				6	7		3	5
3						4	2	
	9				4	8		7
	8		1	4		7		
9								
		3	5			9		1
		8						
5	4				2			
6	3							

HARD

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	5	7						9
						7		4
6						9	5	
2				1				
			9		3			7